

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A textile floorcovering having more than one layer, wherein the layers have been bonded by an adhesive which comprises, as binder, an aqueous dispersion of a mixture made from a polymer A), at least 60% by weight of which is composed of ethylene and from a polymer B), at least 60% by weight of which is composed of vinylaromatics, dienes or mixtures of these, wherein the textile floorcovering is a tufted carpet, and wherein one layer is a tufted backing fabric, and one layer is a secondary backing bonded to said tufted backing fabric by said adhesive.

2. (Original) A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 1, wherein the proportion by weight of the polymer A) is from 0.1 to 50% by weight and that of B) is from 50 to 99.9% by weight, based on the total of A) and B).

3. (Previously Presented) A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 1, wherein the structural components present in the polymer A) are from 60 to 99.9% by weight of ethylene and from 0.1 to 40% by weight of an ethylenically unsaturated acid, based on polymer A).

4. (Currently Amended) A textile floorcovering as claimed ~~in~~ in claim 1 wherein the structural components present in the polymer B) are from 60 to 99.9% by weight of vinylaromatics, dienes or mixtures of these and from 0.1 to 20% by weight of an ethylenically unsaturated acid, based on polymer B).

5. (Previously Presented) A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 1, wherein the adhesive also comprises a thickener.

6. (Original) A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 5, wherein the thickener is a copolymer of ethylenically unsaturated compounds at least 50% by weight of which are ethylenically unsaturated acids, ethylenically unsaturated amides or mixtures of these.

7. (Previously Presented) A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 1, wherein the adhesive comprises less than 200 parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of the total of A) and B), of a filler.

8. (Previously Presented) A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 1, wherein no filler is present in the adhesive.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 1, which comprises applying from 20 g to 1000 g (dry) per m² of adhesive to one of the ~~layer~~ ^[sic] layers and adhesively bonding the layers to one another.

12. (Original) A process for producing a textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 11, wherein the adhesive is applied to the reverse side of a ~~a~~ the tufted backing fabric and the tufted backing fabric is adhesively bonded to a ~~a~~ the secondary backing.

13. (Original) An aqueous adhesive comprising, as binder, an aqueous dispersion of a mixture made from a polymer A), at least 60% by weight of which is composed of ethylene and from a polymer B), at least 60% by weight of which is composed of vinylaromatics, dienes or mixtures of these, and comprising a thickener, where the thickener is a copolymer of ethylenically unsaturated compounds at least 50% by weight of which are ethylenically unsaturated acids, ethylenically unsaturated amides or mixtures of these.

14. (New) A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 1, wherein the tufted backing fabric comprises mainly a polypropylene or a polyester.

15. (New) A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 14, wherein the tufted backing fabric comprises threads fixed thereto on a side thereof that bonds to the secondary backing, with a binder comprising a styrene-butadiene copolymer.

16. (New) A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 1, wherein the secondary backing is a web made from woven or non-woven fibers, or is a needle felt, said secondary backing comprising a polyester or a polypropylene.

17. (New) A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 14, wherein the secondary backing is a web made from woven or non-woven fibers, or is a needle felt, said secondary backing comprising a polyester or a polypropylene.

18. (New) A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 2, wherein the proportion by weight of the polymer A) is from 0.5 to 20% by weight and that of B) is from 80 to 99.5% by weight, based on the total of A) and B).

19. (New) A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 18, wherein the proportion by weight of the polymer A) is from 1 to 10% by weight and that of B) is from 90 to 99% by weight, based on the total of A) and B).

20. (New) A textile floorcovering as claimed in claim 19, wherein the proportion by weight of the polymer A) is less than 10% by weight, based on the total of the A) and B).

21. (New) A textile floorcovering having more than one layer, wherein the layers have been bonded by an adhesive which comprises, as binder, an aqueous dispersion of a mixture made from a polymer A), at least 60% by weight of which is composed of ethylene and from a polymer B), at least 60% by weight of which is composed of vinylaromatics, dienes or mixtures of these, wherein the proportion by weight of the polymer A) is less than 10% by weight, based on the total of A) and B).

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

Claim 1 has been amended by incorporating the subject matter of Claims 9 and 10 therein; Claims 9 and 10 have been cancelled. Claim 4 has been amended by deleting an extraneous comma. Claim 11 has been amended by replacing "layer [sic]" with "--layers--". Claim 12 has been amended to be consistent with the amendment to Claim 1.

New Claims 14-21 have been added. Claim 14 is supported in the specification at page 7, lines 43-44. Claim 15 is supported in the specification at page 7, line 46, through page 8, line 1. Claims 16 and 17 are supported in the specification at page 8, lines 18-22, and for example, page 10, line 2. Claims 18 and 19 are supported in the specification at page 6, lines 19-24. Claim 20 is also supported thereby, and additionally by Adhesives 2 and 6 in Table 1 at page 9 of the specification, wherein polymer A) is present in an amount less than 10% by weight. Finally, Claim 21 is supported by the same disclosure as Claim 20.

No new matter has been added by the above amendment. Claims 1-8 and 11-21 are now pending in the application.